

EXHIBIT A

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,
PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT
LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084 CRB

**DECLARATION OF LAUREN A.
WELLING IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR
PLAINTIFF J.K.**

This Document Relates to:

J.K. v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al;
3:24-cv-05463-CRB

I, Lauren A. Welling, declare:

1. I am an attorney at the law firm of Slater Slater Schulman LLP. I am admitted to practice before this Court. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge. If called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to the truth of the matters stated herein.
2. Plaintiff, J.K. (“Plaintiff”), has not responded to any efforts to reach her made by myself or my office since July 31, 2024. Prior to that, Plaintiff had not contacted our office since March 10, 2023.
3. Plaintiff’s failure to communicate with our office has presented a circumstance covered by Rule 1.16(b)(4) of the California Rules of Professional Conduct. Our office is unable to meet discovery deadlines and otherwise prosecute her case without her input. It is my opinion that our withdrawal from the case has become necessary.

1 4. Under the California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(d), our office has taken all
2 reasonably available steps to avoid prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff.

3 a. Throughout the course of our representation of Plaintiff since she had retained
4 our office on June 10, 2022, she has been minimally responsive with only five
5 (5) communications over the course of two and a half years, before ceasing
6 communication altogether on July 31, 2024.

7 b. Before and throughout the time period described below since service of her
8 Plaintiff Fact Sheet was due, Plaintiff received numerous letters, emails, text
9 messages, telephone calls, and voice messages requesting that she contact our
10 office. These communications included 24 unsuccessful phone calls with voice
11 messages or where voice messages could not be left, 16 emails, four letters, and
12 15 text messages. In these communications, our office repeatedly explained the
13 need for her continued participation in the case, the risk that her case may be
14 dismissed, and that our office would need to withdraw as counsel if she did not
15 contact our office.

16 c. In advance of the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deadline in her case, our office mailed
17 Plaintiff a blank Plaintiff Fact Sheet and notified Plaintiff by telephone calls,
18 emails, text messages, voice messages, and letters that we required input from
19 her to complete her Plaintiff Fact Sheet but our office did not receive the
20 requested information from her in advance of the deadline.

21 d. On September 19, 2024, having been unable to obtain sufficient information
22 about Plaintiff's case, our office submitted a Plaintiff Fact Sheet on Plaintiff's
23 behalf to avoid prejudice to her but could not complete the Plaintiff Fact Sheet
24 without input from Plaintiff, resulting in numerous deficiencies. Our office
25 notified Plaintiff by telephone call, email, text message, and letter that we needed
26 input from her to correct the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deficiencies to avoid dismissal
27 of her case but Plaintiff was unresponsive to our regular communication

1 attempts.

2 e. Since September 19, 2024, all telephone calls to Plaintiff were directed straight
3 to voicemail.

4 f. On November 19, 2024, our office communicated with counsel for Defendants
5 via electronic mail of our intention to respond to Defendants deficiency letter
6 regarding Plaintiff after speaking with her.

7 g. On December 23, 2024, our office received the signed certification back
8 confirming she received our December 6, 2024 correspondence, but she did not
9 contact our office to complete the Plaintiff Fact Sheet.

10 h. Since September 19, 2024, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff
11 on September 20, 2024, September 24, 2024, October 8, 2024, October 18, 2024,
12 November 11, 2024, December 2, 2024, December 10, 2024, December 13,
13 2024, December 20, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025
14 and January 10, 2025.

15 i. On December 13, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025
16 and January 10, 2025, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff
17 explaining that if she did not contact us immediately, we would take steps to
18 withdraw as counsel; these communications offered Plaintiff a deadline by which
19 to contact our office.

20 j. Plaintiff did not respond to any of these communications and her telephone
21 number went straight to voicemail.

22 5. During this time period, our office communicated with Defendants about the
23 deficiencies in Plaintiff's Plaintiff Fact Sheet.

24 6. On December 20, 2024, our office and I had a meet and confer call with counsel for
25 Defendants and conveyed our intention to withdraw from Plaintiff's representation.

26 7. To date, Plaintiff has not agreed to voluntarily dismiss her claims and has not informed
27 our office that alternative counsel has been retained.

8. Our withdrawal from this case will not impact the timing or schedule of this litigation, and our office has taken all reasonable steps possible to avoid prejudice to Plaintiff by informing her of her options and the consequences of failing to comply with case deadlines.

9. I understand that, pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(b), leave to withdraw may be conditioned on our office continuing to accept papers to forward to Plaintiff. In compliance with Local Rule 11-5(b), our office accepts this responsibility.

Executed this 13th day of January, 2025 in Beverly Hills, California.

/s/ Lauren A. Welling
Lauren A. Welling

Attorneys for Plaintiff